WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Founded December 17, 1857 FEBRUARY 1993

WASHTENAW IMPRESSIONS

MARZOLF, STEVENS WILL REVISIT 1893 SCENES IN FEBRUARY 21 TALK

Kingsbury Marzolf, professor of architecture, and Wystan Stevens, local historian, will give a slide talk on *"Art Work of Washtenaw County Revisited After a Century,"* at the Historical Society meeting at 2 p.m. Sunday, February 2l, 1993, at Bentley Library.

Art Work of Washtenaw County is a large volume published in 1893 and containing pictures of local buildings. The speakers will show slides of the buildings as they are today.

Professor Marzolf says that the first talk he gave to other than his students was to WCHS in 1966. Stevens attended and his interest in local architecture was sparked.

The talk is open to the public free of charge.

SUPER VOLUNTEER CHAIR NEEDED TO RUN WCHS MUSEUM ON MAIN STREET

Washtenaw County Historical Society is seeking a volunteer chairperson for the Museum Operating Committee (MOC) for the MUSEUM ON MAIN STREET, *A Museum of County Life.*

The position requires a high degree of enthusiasm, a large amount of available volunteer time, a strong commitment to museum work and to making the museum a flourishing success.

The chairperson will need to chair a nine-member committee (MOC) and work closely with the Society. Prior museum experience is strongly desired.

Please send brief replies by March 1 to Nancy T.McKinney, 1104 W. Madison, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 . Further information: 665-5171.

"PLEASURES OF THE PARLOR"
Museum Benefit
8 p.m. Saturday
March 6, 1993

Kerrytown Concert House
415 N. Fifth Avenue
Ann Arbor, Michigan

VICTORIAN SONGS, VAUDEVILLE ENTERTAINMENT SET FOR MUSEUM BENEFIT AT KERRYTOWN CONCERT HOUSE

PLEASURES OF THE PARLOR, An Evening of Victorian Songs and Entertainment, will be presented at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 6, at Kerrytown Concert House to benefit Washtenaw County Historical Society's Museum on Main Street.

Vaudeville humor, turn of the century songs and other entertainment delights will be the order of the evening. Harold Haugh, noted vaudevillian tenor, Deanna Relyea, singer of songs funny and sad, and friends will entertain.

There will be favors, dainties (edible) and surprises. Doll and teddy bear size quilt art will be on display and for sale to benefit the museum.

Admission, $25; patrons with reserved seating, $40. Information: 769-2999 (Concert House) or 662-9092 (WCHS). It's a fun way to help bring the Museum to reality. Please come, if not by surrey or bicycle built for two, a horseless carriage will do.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

HAPPY HAPPENINGS: 3RD PRIZE IN TREE TRIMMING, LANDSCAPING 90% IN, MOVING TOWARD OPENING DAY

I have some happy happenings to report to you since the publication of our last *Impressions.* Firstly, our Society took third prize at Englander's Annual Charity Christmas Tree Trim-Off and claimed the $250 prize money for our Museum Building Fund.

Our thanks go the members who wrote checks fulfilling pledges to the building fund and placed them in Englander's vote box—each dollar counted as a vote and our Society had $9,599 "votes"!

One of the very generous checks was earmarked for the creation of the Museum Shop. Secondly, the Downtown Kiwanis also contributed $500 to the Museum Shop toward its Dutch door and moveable display case; therefore, we can move forward toward the construction of the Shop, designed by Gary Cooper of Quinn-Evans, Architects who have been so very generous of their advice and time in working with our Museum.

Thirdly, the perimeter fence is in the process of being built at the Ann Arbor Fence Company; the landscaping designed by Peter Pollack and contributed by the Michigan Farm & Garden Foundation, Inc., is 90% complete—in Spring the remaining plants will be installed by the Margolis Nursery; and the handicap doorway is in place and the door is on order at Fingerle Lumber Company.

Week by week the exterior of the Museum looks better and better—a jewel to replace the abandoned building that occupied the site three years ago.

We are working on getting the electrical and heating/cooling systems and plumbing installed so that we may begin the handicap restroom, the Museum Shop, and finish the interior of our Museum. One of our members, Judy Wafle, wrote a grant proposal as a class project at Cleary College this past semester and we are preparing to submit it.

The Museum on Main Street is two-thirds of the way to completion and, hopefully, by September the doors can be opened.

I want to thank the 15 donors who, to date, have received gift certificates for desserts, luncheon entrées or dinner entrées from the Moveable Feast Restaurant. The offer continues. Those contributing $100-$499 receive a gift certificate for two desserts; between $500 and $999 receive a certificate for two luncheon entrées; and $1,000 and over—a certificate for two dinner entrées that may be claimed through the end of March, 1993.

The Fund Drive Committee and I welcome any suggestions and offers of advice from members and friends of the Society. We all look forward to the completion of our task.

Pauline Walters
662-9092

DUTCH FOOTNOTES TO AMERICAN HISTORY

Two small Dutch islands, a greedy English admiral, an American naval hero and England's King James I figure in three little known Dutch footnotes to American history.

They were related by Don and Ali Riddering at the November WCHS meeting and illustrated with slides and maps. Don, a retired teacher and president of the Salem Historical Society, is of Dutch extraction. His wife is a native of the Netherlands.

"On the small Dutch island of St. Eustatius in the Caribbean Sea the sovereignty of the United States was first recognized 216 years ago.

"St. Eustatius was an island, which in typically Dutch fashion, was built on business. They built their wealth on that island by smuggling goods in and out of the American colonies when they were supposed to be doing all their trading with England.

"During the Revolution itself, most of the ammunition and guns that the Americans had came through Dutch smugglers on St. Eustatius.

"On November 16, 1776, an American ship sailed in and fired a salute to the Dutch authorities. Dutch authorities ordered a return salute.

Today there is a plaque on the island, put there by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, in commemoration of the salute ordered by the island's governor. The American ship they saluted was a brig of war, the *Andrea Doria* under Captain Isaiah Robinson of the Continental Navy.

"St. Eustatius was such a rich island and the English were so angry at it for supplying all these contraband goods that they sent an Admiral Rodney there in 1781 to plunder the island.

"The Admiral, a very greedy sort of person, is supposed to have taken off some $20 million of hard bullion and goods from this little island only about half the size of Manhattan.

"The Admiral was so busy plundering he forgot his other job of watching the French fleet. As a result, the French fleet, under Admiral DeGrasse, arrived at Yorktown and cut off the retreat of the English, forcing them to surrender to the Continental troops.

A second footnote involves John Paul Jones. The English fleet tried to defeat the American fleet off Flamborough Head on the east coast of England.

"After Jones's ship was practically sinking and the English admiral asked him to surrender, he made his famous statement, 'I have just begun to fight.' While he lost his own ship, the *Bonhomme Richard,* he took over the English ship he was grappled to.

Photos by Don Riddering

The canal in Leiden from which the Pilgrims probably began their trip to America on the Mayflower.

"After the battle, Jones crossed the North Sea to the Dutch island of Texel, the first of a long series of islands that go up along the Dutch, German and Danish coasts.

"In early October, Jones sailed in to Texel with 500 prisoners. He wanted to get rid of those prisoners, it was hard enough to feed his own people.

"The Dutch were neutral and didn't know quite how to handle this. Finally, toward the end of October, somebody whispered in his ear that there was a fort on the island that nobody was using.

"The Dutch couldn't give it to him—the English ambassador would have objected—but if one dark night he would go there and capture it, then he could put his prisoners in there, which he did.

"Jones was there until the end of the year. He wrote many reports and letters dated from Texel and they are now at Annapolis. In the Netherlands they are now starting to restore the old fort.

"The main footnote is about the Pilgrims, who before they came on to Plymouth, Massachusetts, spent some twelve years in the Netherlands."

Before discussing their years in the Netherlands, Riddering sketched in the situation in England that caused the Pilgrims to move in the first place.

"It started with King Henry VIII and his problems with the Catholic Church and the Pope. The reformation in England was political. There was no real violence, it was really a shift in leadership of the church.

"Under King Henry's daughter Mary there was a brief return of five years to Catholicism in England and then under Elizabeth I England came back into the Protestant column.

"Elizabeth came to the throne in 1558. All her subjects had to attend church or they could be jailed without bail. The bishops—all appointed by the Queen—had the power to question, imprison, hang or burn at the stake anyone holding dangerous religious views.

"Certain people were objecting to the religious situation. They fell into three categories:

1. Some thought the system was merely too elaborate.

2. Some wanted to restore Christianity to its ancient purity and became known as Puritans.

3. Some quoted St. Paul, 'Come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord.' These were the Separatists.

"The Pilgrims were living in Scrooby in Lincolnshire, England. William Brewster, born eight years after Elizabeth came to the throne, studied at Cambridge.

"There he met a Robert Brown, a Separatist, who was jailed for it. Brown was released and fled to Holland. Brewster met two other Separatists at Cambridge who were later both hanged for their beliefs.

"When Brewster came back to Scrooby, he obtained a post as government agent and postmaster and joined the local Church of England, attended church and didn't get into any trouble. Richard Clifton, minister there, was known as a forward radical churchman.

"Queen Elizabeth died in 1603 and James I (James VI in Scotland)—for whom the King James version of the Bible was named—came to England but didn't live up to the hopes of the

Puritans and Separatists.

"He was worse than Elizabeth. He feared a political loss of power if the authority of the church was not maintained. If he permitted a choice in religious matters, then the people might question the right of the king in civil matters.

"When he came in, he removed 300 local ministers from their positions, among them the Rev. Clifton in Scrooby.

"Secret meetings began in Scrooby then, probably at William Brewster's house. John Robinson joined. The persecution began in 1606 and it was certainly dangerous to be a Separatist.

"According to William Bradford, the Scrooby Separatists resolved to go into the Low Countries where they heard there was freedom of religion for all men.

"In the union of the seven provinces in the Netherlands in 1579 , one of the articles states that every citizen should remain free in his religion and no man molested or questioned on the subject of divine worship.

"The Scrooby Separatists made plans to leave. But first Brewster was jailed and fined and finally released.

"The could not get permission to leave the country so they tried to leave illegally. They hired a ship and were going to sail from Boston, England, but the ship's British captain betrayed them. They were arrested and abused. They kept the leaders longer than the others but finally all were released.

"In spring 1608 they tried again. They hired a Dutch ship with a Dutch captain. He was to meet them off the coast near Grimsby, south of Hull. They did this just along the coast, not in a harbor, because that would have been an illegal act.

"The women and children rode on ships down the river to Grimsby while the menfolk walked the 40 miles from Scrooby. The women's ship was a day early. They beached the boat at low tide and were stranded there.

"When the Dutch ship finally came, they couldn't get the boat with the women and children loose from the shore. Most of the men got on board but they had to wait until noon until the tide came in to get the women.

"When they saw the sheriff coming with English troops, the Dutch captain swore an oath and left, leaving the women and children to be captured by local police.

"The English authorities didn't know what to do with the women. They couldn't put them in jail. Finally, after great difficulty, they all did get across the channel and came to Amsterdam. This was the start of their long pilgrimage.

DE LA NOYE, WHO CAME IN 1621, AN FDR CONNECTION

One of the Pilgrims from Leiden was a Philip De la Noye from a Protestant French speaking family in Belgium. He sailed to Massachusetts in 1621 on the *Fortune*. His last name was later Anglicized to Delano as in Franklin Delano Roosevelt who was descended from him.

Roosevelt was also related to five *Mayflower* families—Allerton, Cooke, John Howland, John Tilley and Warren, according to *The Mayflower* by Kate Caffrey.

"In 1608 Philip II of Spain was supposedly the ruler in Holland. The Spanish throne had inherited the Low Countries and the Reformation had started under Philip. In 1567 Philip had marched in, beseiged many towns and executed some 1,800 Dutch Protestants.

"The next year the 80-year-long war of the Dutch for freedom began. Eleven years later came the Dutch declaration of tolerance of religion, previously quoted.

"When the Pilgrims came in 1608, the war had been going on for 40 years. The next year, a 12-year truce began.

"Dutch churches were not connected to the state, they were organized along congregational lines.

"In spite of the long war, the Netherlands were prospering. The provinces, especially Holland, were going through tremendous economic expansion. They were exploring the whole world—they were sailing to New Amsterdam, the Far East. Business was growing.

"Fugitives were coming from all over—Portuguese, Jews, French Huegenots, Flemish refugees. All persecuted people fled to Holland.

"Holland was the only place in the then known world that had freedom of the press. Very strict censorship was standard procedure elsewhere.

"Puritan books and pamphlets were burned in England but they could be freely published in Holland and then smuggled back into England. Books of advanced thinkers from all over the world were being brought to Holland and printed there.

"The Puritans only stayed in Amsterdam a few months—from August 1608 to May 1609. There were other English speaking fugitives there and other English speaking churches . William Bradford feared 'the flames of contention were like to break out' among the churches and they wanted no part of that.

"There was a Rev. Smyth from Gainesborough near Scrooby, for example, who affirmed that he alone could reconstitute the church. He claimed the English Bible was a sin because God could certainly not have spoken English, and none of the Separatists were Christians since they had been baptized as infants, not as adults. He was pretty extreme.

"There was a lot of bickering, even lawsuits. Robinson, the leader of our Pilgrims, and Brewster saw trouble ahead. They applied to the *burgermeester* (mayor) of Leiden for permission to move their church there to the number of 100 people.

"On February 12,1609, Leiden replied that they do not refuse honest persons free and liberal entrance into this town to settle there provided they will behave themselves honorably and submit to all laws and regulations of this town and, therefore, the coming of the petitioners will be welcomed.

"They moved to Leiden in 1609 and stayed there until 1620. Leiden was one third the size of Amsterdam. William Bradford said of it, 'a fair and beautiful city and a sweet situation.'

"A University there dates from 1575. It was established as a reward to the city for its brave resistance to the Spanish. In 1574, the Dutch, after a nine-month siege, were starving to death. By flooding the surrounding territory they were able to get rid of the Spanish troops.

"Holland is, of course, the delta of the Rhine and the river is divided up into all sorts of branches and used for all sorts of things.

"The Pilgrims settled in and around the large church, *Pieterskerk* (St. Peter's Church). It was a poor crowded area and these farmers from Scrooby had to learn a trade of some sort—wool comber, carpenter, silk worker, felt maker, button maker, hatter, cutler, glover, brewery worker—all sorts of trades.

"Mere existence was all absorbing in their first years there. There are very few records until 1616 when they apparently saved enough money to buy a

place of worship, the Green Gate. They paid 8,000 guilders or $10,500 with one quarter down and 500 guilders per year.

"They apparently bought a walled in courtyard with houses all around the inside. It was right behind *Pieterskerk*. John Robinson had a parsonage and a garden there. Some of the Pilgrims built houses there and they held services there.

"Things were going well for them there. Bradford said they 'lived for many years in a comfortable condition enjoying much sweet and delightful society and spiritual comfort together in the ways of God and under the able ministry and prudent government of Mr. John Robinson and Mr. William Brewster.'

"The congregation had grown to some 300 members of which not more than 21 were from the Scrooby group. The domination of the Scrooby group rested on its leadership—Robinson, Brewster and Bradford.

"There was another English speaking church in Leiden, a Presbyterian Scottish, really an English speaking unit of the Dutch Reformed Church. There was a close association with that church. They even took communion together.

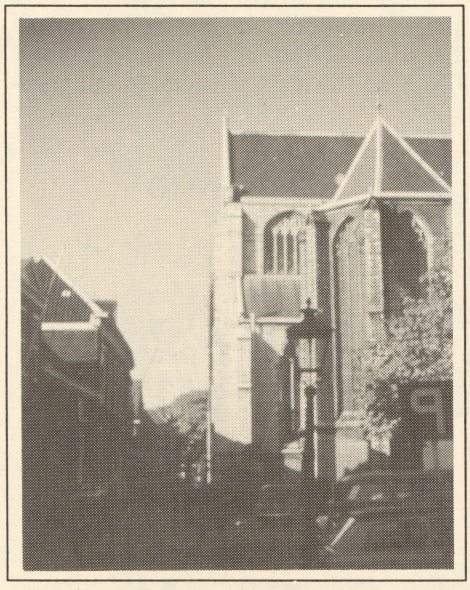
"Earlier, Robinson would have objected to that but he came to admit that any and all were Christians who guided their practice upon the word of God.

"In 1615 Robinson entered the University of Leiden and started to write for publication but he could not penetrate the English censorship.

"In 1616 William Brewster and a Presbyterian friend, Thomas Brewer, set up a publishing house, later known as the Pilgrim Press. Edward Winslow, 22, was appointed apprentice printer. They officially published three noncontroversial books, one in Dutch, two in Latin, as a screen to hide printing of prohibited books to be sold in England.

"In 1618 they published a book called *The Perth Assembly*. King James had called together the leaders of the Presbyterian Church and set new rules for them as to how their churches would be governed by him and the Church of England.

"A minister, David Calderwell, wrote, vigorously condemning the meeting and advising the Scottish people to ignore the Perth Assembly. He fled to Leiden with his manuscript. They printed it in Holland in 1618 and smuggled it back to England in French wine vats, according to the story.



During their 12 years in the Netherlands, the Pilgrims lived in the shadow of Pieterskerk (St. Peter's Church) in Leiden.

"In 1619 it came into the hands of English authorities. The King was furious. He was determined to catch the man who printed such a book. Brewster was pursued on both sides of the channel but to no avail.

"They have records of the reports that the British ambassador to the Netherlands sent to the English king. They always say we're going to get him or we've heard he's a certain place. The Pilgrims spread false rumors as to where he was. He disappeared for a year and a half. He finally appeared on the Mayflower when it was way out to sea.

"A similar case of a Scottish minister who published an attack on the Anglican Church in the Netherlands suggests Brewster had good reason to stay hidden. The minister was caught. His fine was 100,000 pounds. He was whipped, pilloried, one ear cut off, and his nose split. He was branded 'SS' as 'stirrer of sedition' and imprisoned for life.

"The Pilgrims decided to leave Holland in 1620. They knew that the end of the truce with the Spanish was coming in 1621. They feared the return of the Spanish Inquisition. They were English and wanted to maintain that identity. They thought that England, not they, had gone astray.

"In 1616 Captain John Smith of Pocahontas fame had written a book describing New England which they had read and may have given them the idea to go there. They finally departed Leiden on July 21, 1620 to board the *Speedwell* in Rotterdam.

"But the majority stayed on in the Netherlands with Robinson. The smaller group went on under leadership of Bradford and Brewster. There were only 16 men, 11 women and 19 children, a total of 46 who were from Scrooby who left in 1620.

"Three of the five Brewster children stayed on in the Netherlands. Bradford left his son there, some men left whole families. It's true that some came on to Plymouth the next year, but there are descendants of these Pilgrims living in the Netherlands today.

"The *Speedwell* was not seaworthy so they boarded the *Mayflower* at Southampton. By this time the Separatists from Leiden were calling themselves 'saints' and people not part of their congregation 'strangers.' The 'saints' were only about a third of the total persons on board the *Mayflower*.

"John Alden, Priscilla Mullins, Myles Standish and many other people on board were not Separatists at all, they were still Church of England people. This caused problems when they came to land.

"A final footnote to the Leiden footnote was that there was a Thomas Willet born in Leiden in 1610 who came to Massachusetts. He became the assistant governor to Peter Stuyvesant in New Amsterdam. When the English took over, Willet became the first English governor of New York. He was able to deal with Stuyvesant because of his Dutch background."

The Ridderings then showed slides and maps of the Netherlands related to the Pilgrims and the Island of Texel. Don once spent a year of sabbatical leave at the University of Leiden.

Leiden scenes included the Rhine River, canals and bridges over them, a flower market on a bridge, market day, a 1612 house built when the Pilgrims were there, *Pieterskerk* and the Latin School where Rembrandt went to school. Whether any Pilgrims went there he didn't know.

There was a scene taken across the Rhine near where Rembrandt was born. His last name, *Van Rijn*, means 'from the Rhine.' He was a child in Leiden when the Pilgrims were there.

There was a picture of an old city gate. There are now houses where the old city walls were.

There were scenes of the canals the Pilgrims probably arrived and left on. All the canals are usable by boats, he said. The bridges tip up when a ship comes along. The Pilgrims probably would have gone by canal on some kind of barge to the ship at Rotterdam.

A plaque on the wall of *Pieterskerk,* a Dutch Reformed Church, says Pastor Robinson was buried in the church. The Pilgrims worshipped right across the street from that church.

"If you go to Leiden today there are signs on all the various buildings as to which one of the Pilgrims lived there and what they did there.

"One of the things the Pilgrims learned in Holland was they met the idea of public schools. When we went to the Netherlands in 1989, it was really because Ali's high school in Haarlem was celebrating its 600th anniversary as a public high school. It had been a school before that under the bishop."

He showed pictures of the 20-mile long island of Texel where John Paul Jones stayed after his battle with the English. Ali Riddering's folks on both sides came from Texel .

"There is a canal on the island which goes inland to a little bit higher land where there is a natural well. Ships anchored out there had to go by barge along this canal to get their water. The well was owned by an orphanage which sold water to the ships. "

What influence did the stay in Leiden have on the Pilgrims ?

"They saw toleration there . That was a dirty word elsewhere in the world. At the time of the witches, there was only one woman accused in Plymouth and she was acquitted, in comparison to Salem [where 19 were hanged].

"They experienced a society with separation of church and state. This was reflected in the Mayflower Compact which set up a civil government and they elected their own governor, the first time that any governor had ever been elected.

"It was also in Leiden that the Pilgrims met our traditional American Thanksgiving hymn, 'We Gather Together To Ask The Lord's Blessing.' It was a Dutch hymn written in thankfulness for defeating the Spanish army."

Song sheets were passed out and Ali led singing of the hymn in Dutch and English. She also gave a literal translation of the first and third verses on request.

What made the Dutch so tolerant?

"We have asked ourselves this," Don said. "I think it has something to do with the sea. You can't have your own little dike and stay dry if your neighbor down the road doesn't have his dike dry. There is a dike count, they call him, who has more authority than the civil authorities. He has to protect the country from water."

"Then they suffered under Philip II and the Spanish Inquisition. And they were interested in doing business—everybody's money was good.

"For years the only foreigners allowed in Japan were the Dutch because they weren't trying to bring their religion to them, they were just doing business."

Someone asked where the "strangers" on the Mayflower came from.

"The Pilgrims didn't just go by themselves. They had long discussions with various English companies about getting a royal permit or charter to come here.

"It was called Plymouth because they went with the Plymouth Company, a group of exploiters in Plymouth, England who wanted to set up fishing colonies along the coast.

"The company knew there weren't enough people coming from Leiden so they rounded up other people. They were filling the boat.

"The Pilgrims even had offers from the Dutch to settle in New Amsterdam. The Dutch were even ready to pay their way and give everybody a cow.

"When they went with the English Plymouth Company they had to work five days a week for the company. Then they had one day for religion and one day to work for themselves to pay off the debt of getting there.

"There was a lot of complicated maneuvering to get over here. It's amazing to me the amount of documentation there is about that. There is in Leiden a Pilgrim Museum. They have collected all the documents they have in the Leiden archives."

NEED OLD STAMPS

Needed: old United States postage stamps with a Michigan connection to be used in laminated bookmarks to be sold in the WCHS Museum Shop.

"Michigan" stamps include the 1987 sesquicentennial stamp, the three-cent Mackinac Bridge stamp, the lace-making one featuring lace made by a Washtenaw County resident, a 1937 state centennial stamp and maybe others. Please call Bets Hansen, Museum Shop chairman, 663-5467.

CLEMENTS LIBRARY DECKED OUT IN ANTIQUE TOYS A FESTIVE SETTING FOR WCHS DECEMBER MEETING

Ranks of toy soldiers stood at attention, Victorian dolls were seated under the Christmas tree, 1880 toy horsedrawn vehicles, a dollhouse, even Roman era toys were on display.

In December, the University of Michigan's Clements Library of American History hosted a virtual festival of toys that must have delighted children of previous generations. Today they are lovingly preserved by toy collectors or, in the case of the Roman era toys, by the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology.

That was the delightful setting for the December WCHS meeting.

Some of the toys under the tree belong to WCHS as well as the Victorian dollhouse made by the late Professor Lewis H. Hodges.

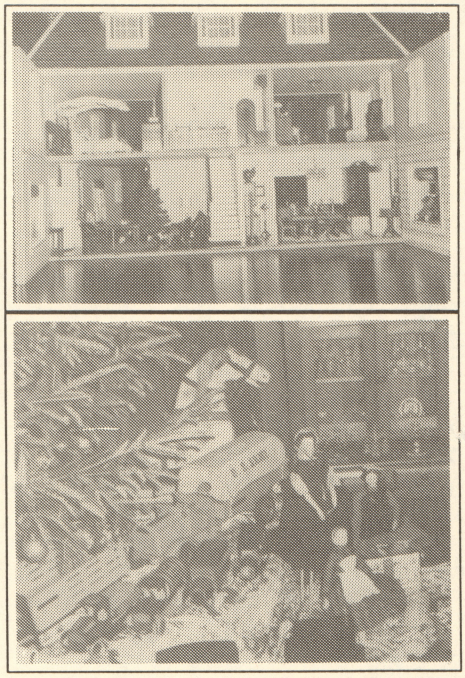
The Roman toys, found in Egypt, included a simple wooden doll . a glass marble, small wood toy horse with wheels and bone dice.

There were American, German, French, English, Austrian, and Prussian units of toy soldiers from Roman Philipp's collection.

Toys from the Bob Lyons collection included cast iron, lithographed tin, mechanical banks and penny toys. There was a cast iron log wagon, and Buckeye Ditcher, a Toonerville trolley and Popeye on a motorcycle.

Items from the Eleanor Murphey collection included a 19th century Amish horsedrawn buggy, a Quaker doll in 1890 dress and Keystone magic lantern slides.

Nestled under the tree were toys from the Fredericka Britton Koyka collection, loaned by Karen and Joe O'Neal, from Jonathan and Trudy W. Bulkley and from Lyons and WCHS.



Photos by Karen O'Neal

WCHS doll house (top) was displayed at December meeting at Clements Library.

The library's Christmas tree (below) was surrounded by antique toys.

PHOTOGRAPHS PRICELESS ARTIFACTS, NEED TLC FOR POSTERITY

"Photographs are priceless artifacts," Sam Breck, local photographer, reminded the December WCHS audience at Clements Library of American History.

"They are even more so in an age when hardly anyone writes letters any more. Along with that, of course, is the ease of taking photographs.

"The advent of the point-and-shoot camera has given millions of people the ability to produce these images. And then there are ways of getting them processed very quickly. You pay a premium but, still in all, you have the images quickly.

"But then people don't take care of them. They store prints under conditions so that in 20 to 30 years color photographs will have gone to what they call the 'red shift' with the blues and greens faded.

"Don't leave color photographs where direct sunlight can get to them. That will ruin them in a couple of years time. The best way to store prints loosely would be in a box, and, if they are real precious, with special archival paper in between.

"If you are interested in archival supplies you can call Light Impressions, Rochester, N.Y. at 1-800-828-9859 (toll-free) for a catalogue. They have acid-free paper and boxes for sale.

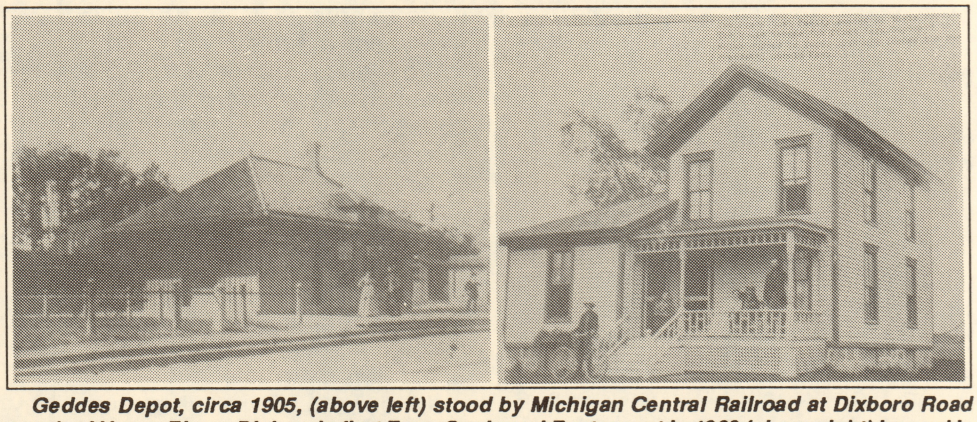
"Photographs made in the last part of the last century are going to be more stable than those made in the last ten years. Similarly, books and periodicals printed since the l870s or so are printed on paper that is disintegrating rapidly. There would be no books in Clements Library if the paper they were printed on was made the way it is today.

"If any of you are putting prints in these so-called magnetic albums—things that have stripes of adhesive across them and then there is a clear piece of plastic material that goes over them—don't.

"If you don't want them to look as if they were made through a picket fence in ten years or so, take them out, because there are chemicals in that glue and paper that are going to leach into those prints and they'll be ruined.

"I know it's simple and it's fast to put them in there but you are going to pay the price for that convenience.

"The best albums that you can get are just plain paper. You can order them through photographic stores. Remember those corners? Some have self-stick adhesive on the back—that is not too objectionable—but the best ones are the ones you lick.



Geddes Depot, circa 1905, (above left) stood by Michigan Central Railroad at Dixboro Road south of Huron River. Dixboro's first Farm Cupboard Restaurant in 1928 (above right) burned in 1935, was replaced by a remodeled barn, now the Lord Fox. Pictures courtesy of Carol Willits Freeman.

Part of Dixboro baseball team in the 1920s. Upper row, George Lutz and William Shuart. Lower row, a moonlighting member of Cleary College team with Andrew Gale, pitcher, and Arthur Shankland, catcher.

"With corners, moreover, it allows you to remove the print and see what is on the back. Always write on the back with a soft (No. 1 or 2) pencil, preferably along the lower edge. If you use a ballpoint pen don't press down so hard that you emboss the paper. Write lightly.

"The best place to store slides is what Kodak a number of years ago called 'first floor, top of closet.' What they are saying is a place where there is not a great variance in humidity and temperature. Don't store them in the cellar or attic.

"As far as your negatives go, you can buy, locally I think, polypropylene or polyethylene sheets. There is room to date and number them and write across the top what they are. Don"t leave them in regular number 10 envelopes if they mean anything to you.

"I bought a pack of 100 storage sheets recently for $35—that's 35 cents a sheet. You can use the same kind of material to store slides. One sheet holds 20 slides.

"Very few people take black-and-white photographs. It's either very costly and/or inconvenient to get them processed. But well processed black-and-white negatives would probably last about 800 years if they are cared for and color materials 75 to 100 years unless some kind of archival storage which involves refrigeration is used, especially for slides because they are organic material.

"I have some slides I think I made in the 1960s and I can see a couple of them where the fungus has started—once that has started there is really no way to get away from it."

He then made copies of local photographs brought in by members to add to the Society's photo archives.

HOW TO JOIN, DONATE

To join WCHS send name, address and phone number with check or money order payable to Washtenaw County Historical Society to:

WCHS Treasurer
Post Office Box 3336
Ann Arbor, MI 48106

Annual dues are individual, $15; couple/family, $25; student/senior (60), $10; senior couple (one 60), $19; association/business, $50; patron, $100.

Donations are gratefully accepted at same address. Please indicate if you intend your check, or a portion of your check, to be a donation so membership and museum accounts can be kept straight.

PICTURE OF HOUSE, TWO FAMILY ALBUMS GIVEN

Recent gifts to WCHS shed further light on two of the families who lived in the WCHS museum house.

William Ely of Ann Arbor and Florida has given an old photo of the house on Wall Street with several girls standing in front of it. One of them was his mother, Louise Greiner. The Greiner family lived in the house from 1890 to 1915. On June 7, 1901 Louise and her sisters penciled their names on the door to the attic. The names can still be seen.

Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Shankland of Valparaiso, Indiana, have given two 19th century photo albums that belonged to his great aunt, Addie Townsend Ruthruff. Her husband, George Ruthruff, was one of 13 children of Samuel Ruthruff.

Samuel and at least some of his family moved into the Wall Street house in 1853 and lived there at least until Samuel's death in 1877. George Ruthruff would have been 11 at the time of the move.

The albums include pictures of Addie, George, their son, Burt T., George's brother, William, and his nephew William Galpin. One album is inscribed "Addie Ruthruff, Dixboro, Mich., Feb. 10,1883." There are other pictures of relatives and friends, most with a Dixboro connection. George and Addie had homes in Dixboro and Ann Arbor.

FREEDOM CHURCHES MARK MAJOR ANNIVERSARIES

President Pauline Walters recently presented two framed WCHS anniversary certificates to two rural Washtenaw County churches in Freedom township.

St. Thomas Evangelical Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, 10,001 West Ellsworth Road, celebrated last year the sesquicentennial of its founding in 1842 by the pioneer missionary Friedrich Schmid.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church of Rogers Corners, 3050 South Fletcher Road near Waters Road, celebrated the 125th anniversary of its founding last year. The Zion congregation split off from St. Thomas Church because some of the members thought it was too far to go in horse and buggy days.

Similar hand-lettered certificates are offered, framed if desired, free of charge by WCHS to organizations for milestone anniversaries. Information: 663-8826.

MOMS ALREADY 'COOKING' WITH OLD COOKBOOK DISPLAY AT COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 220 N. MAIN

"Washtenaw County's Charitable Cooks 1887-1989" is the current exhibit in the first floor display case at the County Administration Building, 220 N. Main Street, Ann Arbor. Women in America began compiling fund raising cookbooks for a variety of good causes at the end of the Civil War. Since that time, thousands of these charity cookbooks have been published in the United States.

The earliest Michigan charitable cookbook, *The Grand Rapids Receipt Book*, was compiled by the ladies of the Grand Rapids Congregational Church in 1871. In 1887, the first Washtenaw County charity cookbook appeared, *The Jubilee Cook Book*, a collection of tested recipes by the Ladies' Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Ann Arbor.

The earliest Washtenaw County cookbooks (1887-1923) in this exhibit often contain ads for local businesses and thus become a treasure chest for county history.

The Eastern Star Cook Book, 1923, Ypsilanti Chapter No. 119, Order of the Eastern Star, Ypsilanti, has an ad for M.C. Hawking & Co. Plumbing, Steam and Hot Water Heating (22 N. Huron St., Ypsilanti) that advises, "Good children are usually found in homes where the practice of a 'bath-a-day' is in force. Cleanliness of body fosters a clean mind and clean morals."

In addition to the earliest charitable cookbooks of Washtenaw County, there are books from charitable cooks of Ann Arbor, out-county, ethnic and University of Michigan, spanning a history of more than 100 years.

Dozens, perhaps hundreds of charity cookbooks have been written in Washtenaw County since the first Washtenaw County charitable cookbook appeared in 1887. This exhibition, on view through March 1993, displays just a small part of the culinary heritage of Washtenaw County and its charitable cooks.

We wish to demonstrate that the Museum on Main Street (MoMS) is cooking and hopes to fold into its collection the rich history that cookbooks provide. If you have any, please notify the Society, either to donate them or simply to have them recorded.

In the meantime, do stop by the County's Administration Building (the old U.S. Post Office) to feast on "Washtenaw County's Charitable Cooks 1887-1889."

Books and artifacts in this exhibit are from the collections of Jan Longone and Susan Wineberg. Mrs. Longone, Trudy Bulkley and Pauline Walters set up this display.

HISTORY HAPPENINGS INVOLVE ANTIQUE MUSIC, MASTODONS, BLACK HISTORY, VALENTINES

Chelsea Historical Society: Founder's Day potluck dinner 6 p.m. Monday, February 8 at depot.

Dexter Society: 19th annual pioneer arts and crafts show Saturday, March 27, 10-4 p.m., at Dexter High School.

Manchester Society: Professor James Borders, curator of the U-M Stearns Collection of antique musical instruments will speak at 7:30 p.m. on February l6 at the Blacksmith Shop, 324 East Main, about historic instruments.

Salem Society: Dr. A.P. Marshall will talk about "Black History in Ypsilanti" at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, February 24, at the Salem Township Hall. Dr. Marshall is the author of a soon to be published book on that topic.

Saline Society: Professor Daniel Fisher of the U-M paleontology department will review the recent mastodon finds in the Saline area at 7 p.m. Wednesday, February 17, at the Senior Center, 7605 North Maple.

Webster Society: Marjorie Smyth, president, and the other officers were re-elected. Sue Gibson is co-president, Gloria Brigham, vice-president, Margrit Nonnenmacher, secretary, and Elizabeth Kleinschmidt, treasurer. Dave Calhoun, Linda Chapman and Ann Graves are board members. The society is restoring the former one-room Podunk School.

Ypsilanti Society: Valentine party 2-4 p.m. Sunday, February 14, at museum, 220 North Huron Street. Old Valentine display, music, refreshments, free. Robert Fink, a retired attorney, is the new president and Peter Fletcher, vice-president. New board members are Catherine Kemling, Charles Kettles and Fletcher.

HURON RIVERFEST SET

An elaborate Huron RIVERfest '93 is being planned by the Huron River Watershed Council May 14-22 during which a flotilla of modern-day explorers will canoe the length of the river and make overnight stops where local communities are invited to plan activities and displays about the history, beauty and challenges of the river. Information: 769-5123.

KAREN'S COLUMN

THANKS TO SPECIAL PEOPLE FOR IN KIND GIFTS, SEVERAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

On the chance that you all made a New Year's resolution to get more involved with the Washtenaw County Historical Society, I would like to tell you about areas where we could use some help.

Volunteers are needed to begin to develop programs and activities focused toward school children. We already have a traveling exhibit that goes to third and fourth grade classrooms with an interpreter.

We would like to identify a few people who would enjoy working with teachers and the schools to determine what might be helpful and how the Historical Society might use its resources to best advantage.

Volunteers interested in developing small exhibits are needed. *Washtenaw County's Charitable Cooks 1887-1987,* the exhibit currently at the County Administration Building, is an example of what might be done. The focus of an exhibit might be a particular interest of yours, or ideas will be suggested.

Volunteers are needed to research, choose and begin to put together the special book in which all contributors of money and goods and services will be listed for a permanent record in the museum.

A volunteer artist is needed to do a drawing of the museum house which could be folded and made into a three-dimensional model.

Volunteers are needed to help with fund raising. We could use anyone who has an interest in this generally, and specifically we could use people who would enjoy helping with our benefit at the Kerrytown Concert House March 6.

Thanks to some special people who have really helped out recently:

Versile Fraleigh of Fraleigh's Landscape Nursery and Ann Arbor Snow Removal, volunteered to keep our sidewalks clear of snow this winter. It has been a big help to have that taken care of so capably.

When Ann Arbor Fence was getting ready to install the screen fence between the neighbors and our parking lot, somehow, the corner markers establishing the property line had vanished.

The lot had been surveyed when the house was moved. Wishing to avoid installing a fence on property we were not entitled to, we notified Al Suggitt at Atwell-Hicks, Inc. They came through for us promptly with the correct boundary. A bill was sent, graciously marked "Paid in Full."

Peter Pollack , to whom we are indebted for our landscape plans, personally came—on a Sunday!—and moved some of our shrubs out of harm's way so the fence could be installed properly.

Deanna Relyea, Director of the Kerrytown Concert House, offered to help us put on a benefit for the Museum. The Kerrytown Concert House is a neighbor of the Museum. We welcome Deanna's interest and support with many thanks.

Karen O'NeaL
665-2242

WCHS AIMING FOR TV-VCR FROM KNAPP'S POINTS

WCHS went over the top, collecting more than 16,509 Bill Knapp's Restaurant points to earn a videocassette recorder early in November.

Of course, to use a VCR you need a television set and the WCHS board chose that as the next goal. In shopping around, the committee chose a combination TV-VCR requiring a little more than twice as many points.

Besides the 16,509 points readers have turned in 2,579 more points since November for a total of 19,088, putting us more than half way to our new goal. So please keep saving points and give or send to Alice Ziegler, 537 Riverview Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Anyone who eats at a Knapp's Restaurant can request a yellow points slip from the cashier each time, with one point for each dollar spent. Thanks to all who have helped so far.

BARN REHAB MEETING PLANNED FEBRUARY 20

A day long barn rehabilitation workshop will be held Saturday, February 20, at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Road, Saline, for anyone interested in history, preservation, adapting or restoring barns. Information:971-0079.

It is one of six state-wide. Local coordinators include the Washtenaw County Extension Service and the Saline and Pittsfield Historical Societies. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., buffet lunch at noon and it will conclude with a tour of local barns under restoration. Advance registration required. Fee.

Editor: Alice Ziegler, 663-8826
Address: 537 Riverview Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48104
Mailing: Louisa Pieper, 662-9092
Published September-May, except December.
WCHS Office: (313) 662-9092

WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

"1893 SCENES REVISITED"

2:00 P.M. Sunday
February 21, 1993

Bentley Library
1150 Beal
U-M North Campus
Ann Arbor, Michigan

WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
2200 Fuller Road, 1202 B
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105-2307

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Your INVITATION is enclosed:
PLEASURES OF THE PARLOR
. . .
Saturday, March 6, 1993
Kerrytown Concert House

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 96
Ann Arbor, MI

complimentary

Ypsilanti Museum
220 North Huron Street
Ypsilanti MI 48197